

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMCONGEN ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

AMCONSUL ADANA

S E C R E T GENEVA 1396

EXDIS

STADIS//////////

FROM: CND DEL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, UN, TU

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS: TURKISH/UN DEVELOPMENTS

1. FOLLOWING ARE POINTS OF INTEREST ARISING FRIENDLY INFORMAL CONVERSATION FEB 27 BETWEEN AMBASSADORS KIRCA AND VANCE. TALK STARTED BY KIRCA GIVING HIS OVERALL IMPRESSIONS OF TURKISH CONTROL PROGRAM (GENERALLY ALONG LINES TAKEN BY GOT DEL AT CND (GENEVA 1239)). HE ALSO REMARKED HE WAS GRATIFIED BY PROGRESS BEING MADE IN HIS TALKS WITH MARTENS OF U.N. HE EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR USG HELP TO U.N. AND OPINED IT POLITICALLY PREFERABLE HAVE U.S. ASSISTANCE COME VIA U.N.

VANCE MENTIONED DESIRABILITY OF NUMEROUS LOW-FLYING AIRCRAFT TO PATROL POPPY FIELDS DURING LANCING PERIOD, BOTH TO SPOT MALFACTORS AND FOR PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACT ON FARMERS. KIRCA AGREED THIS IMPORTANT BUT NOTED HE THOUGHT JANDARMA HAD ONLY TWO OR THREE PLANES AND DOUBTED ARMY WOULD AGREE LEND ADDITIONAL AIRCRAFT.

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HE FEARED ARMY WOULD NOT WANT TO GET INVOLVED IN A

CIVILIAN MATTER. VANCE SAID THAT IN THIS EVENT PLANES, POSSIBLY WITH UN ASSISTANCE, SHOULD PERHAPS BE CHARTERED FROM TURKISH OR EUROPEAN FIRMS AND ARRANGEMENTS SHOULD BE MADE PROMPTLY.

3. VANCE NOTED THAT UN IS ORDERING JEEPS FOR TMO'S USE FOR GROUND PATROL BUT THESE MAY NOT ARRIVE GROWING AREAS IN TIME FOR USE THIS YEAR. EXPRESSED HOPE TMO WOULD NOT HOLD UP ITS ARRANGEMENTS FOR CONTROL UNTIL JEEPS ARRIVE. URGED THAT TMO SHOULD START NOW TO MAKE CONTINGENCY ARRANGEMENTS TO BORROW OR RENT VEHICLES. MENTIONED VEHICLES OBTAINED BY SEVERAL AGENCIES FROM 1968 AID LOAN OF U.S. THREE MILLION DOLLARS. KIRCA AGREED AND ASKED HIS AIDE MAKE NOTE OF THIS.

4. VANCE MENTIONED NEED FOR CLOSEST COORDINATION OF CONTROL EFFORT AS AMONG TMO, JANDARMA AND TNP. MENTIONED UTILITY OF CENTRALIZED INTELLIGENCE COORDINATION AND NEED OF ADEQUATE AND COMMON COMMO SYSTEM. KIRCA SAID HE HAD THESE MATTERS IN MIND AND WAS ASKING URGENT UN SURVEY OF COMMO NEEDS.

5. ON ALKALOIDS PLANT, KIRCA SAID HE HAS RECOMMENDED THAT GOT SHOULD SEEK ASSISTANCE IBRD AND ANTICIPATES THIS MATTER WILL SHORTLY BE CONSIDERED BY PLANNING COMMITTEE. IF GOT DECIDES APPLY TO IBRD, TURKISH CHARGE WASHINGTON WILL BE INSTRUCTED TAKE UP MATTER DIRECTLY WITH MACNAMARA HIMSELF. KIRCA SAID THAT IN TURKEY ONLY FEASIBLE COURSE POLITICALLY IS STATE MONOPOLY. NO JOINT VENTURE INVOLVING MANAGEMENT OR EVEN MINORITY SHARE-HOLDING BY FOREIGN FIRM, HOWEVER DESIRABLE TECHNICALLY OR COMMERCIALY, WILL BE POSSIBLE. FOREIGN EXPERTISE, WHICH ADMITTEDLY NEEDED IN EARLY PHASE, COULD BE OBTAINED THROUGH WHAT COULD BE CALLED QUOTE CONSULTANTS UNQUOTE WHICH MUCH MORE ACCEPTABLE POLITICALLY. KIRCA ADDED THAT IF PLANT OWNED OR MANAGED BY FOREIGNERS, THEN OPPONENTS OF STRAW PROCESS COULD BLAME ANY PROBLEMS ON FOREIGN INTERFERENCE. HE SAID IT IMPERATIVE REMOVE ENTIRE MATTER OF TURKISH POPPY PRODUCTION FROM POLITICAL ARENA. FINALLY, HE STATED THAT PLANT WOULD HAVE TO GO
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ALL THE WAY FROM STRAW PROCESSING TO CODEINE, AT LEAST EVENTUALLY, ALTHOUGH TURKEY MIGHT OPT IN ANY FUTURE YEAR TO SELL AT LEAST PART OF ITS PRODUCTION IN FORM OF STRAW CONCENTRATE IF CURRENT COMMERCIAL SITUATION SO DICTATED. DALE

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